

CONCRETE AND ASPHALT

INNOVATION ACT OF 2023

CO-INTRODUCED BY SENS. CHRIS COONS (D-DE), THOM TILLIS (R-NC)

The Concrete and Asphalt Innovation Act of 2023 would direct federal resources to accelerate research, development, demonstration and commercialization of low-emission concrete and asphalt technologies while also setting a strategic plan for government agency coordination.

The Concrete and Asphalt Innovation Act of 2023 would:

- Create a low-emissions concrete and asphalt research, development, and demonstration program;
- Leverage Manufacturing USA institutes to support development and testing of low-emissions concrete and asphalt;
- Provide performance-based, low-emissions transportation materials grants through the Federal Highway Administration;
- Authorize the Transportation Secretary to make advanced purchase commitments for low-emissions concrete and asphalt;
- Form an interagency task force for concrete and asphalt innovation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

CLAIRE_CODY@COONS.SENATE.GOV

HARRISON_WALKER@TILLIS.SENATE.GOV

CONCRETE AND ASPHALT INNOVATION ACT OF 2023

SECTION BY SECTION

Section 1: Short Title

This Act may be cited as the Concrete and Asphalt Innovation Act of 2023.

Section 2: Definitions

Section 3: Low-Emissions Cement, Concrete, Asphalt Binder, and Asphalt Mixture Production Research Program

This section adds a section to Subtitle D of title IV of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to advance the research and development of innovative technologies aimed at achieving reduction in embodied greenhouse gas and co-pollutant emissions, increasing the technological and economic competitiveness of industry and production in the United States, increasing the stability of supply chains through enhanced domestic production, nearshoring, cooperation with allies, and creating quality domestic jobs.

Section 4: Low-Emissions Concrete and Low-Emissions Asphalt Manufacturing USA Institutes

This section allows for the Secretary of Commerce to establish and support two Manufacturing USA Institutes, one for low-emissions cement and concrete, and one for low-emissions asphalt binder and mixtures.

Section 5: Federal Highway Administration

This section encourages States to improve State-level cement, concrete, asphalt binder, and asphalt mixture specifications and standards to facilitate the purchase of low-emissions cement concrete, asphalt binder, or asphalt mixtures through performance-based, low-emissions transportation materials grants.

Section 6: Advance Purchase Commitment Authority

This section authorizes the Secretary of Energy to directly purchase or contractually guarantee the direct purchase of conforming low-emissions cement, concrete, asphalt binder, or asphalt mixture and to encourage continuous innovation and long-term emissions reductions in the production of concrete, cement, asphalt binder, and asphalt mixtures.

Section 7: Interagency Task Force for Concrete and Asphalt Innovation

This section allows the Secretary of Energy, in coordination with the Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of General Services, the Secretary of Defense, the Director of the National Institutes of Standards and Technology, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to establish a task force in order to improve durability and performance, reduce the cost of, and support continuous innovation and emissions reductions in the production of low-emissions cement, concrete, asphalt binder, and asphalt mixtures. It also serves to ensure that there is a trained workforce in fields related to domestic production and use of the materials.